

money, protect New Orleans. They did it, and they did a good job of doing it.

We still have outlying areas that need flood control. If you look at the cost of Katrina—and I will give you a few figures—you will see that we still have a gap.

You had \$150 billion in damages. Most of the Federal spending went for relief, not rebuilding. \$120.5 billion in total spending. Emergency relief was 75 billion. Rebuilding funds was 45 billion.

So if you look at the Federal funding, private insurance claims, and charitable giving, it still leaves a gap of about \$60 billion. When you talk about a gap of \$60 billion, I just want you to understand what that means.

That means, in every community, every neighborhood, including mine, you will see five houses where people have come back, saved up money, and rebuilt using both insurance, savings, retirement, FEMA, government money. Then you will see a house or two that is not rebuilt at all.

Then if you go down to the lower Ninth Ward, you will see one house that is rebuilt. Then you will see six or seven houses that are not rebuilt where the grass is just as high as the trees and it looks like a forest.

If you are that one homeowner that took the time to come home and rebuild and you have to pass that every night, it is just not a safe situation. We, as a country, can do better than that.

So what I would hope is that, as we continue the process of helping New Orleans and Louisiana recover from Katrina, that we look at the lessons learned and we find the people who still have unmet needs, we find the people that are still not back in their homes who want to be in their homes, and we figure out a way to help them.

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That is what HUD is for. We still have the money, and in fact, citizens and community groups—and I can think of a bunch of them, A Community Voice, Justice and Beyond—all of those groups have been asking Congress and the inspector general to do an audit and an investigation of how much funds we received, where did they go, what is left, how do we move forward and make sure that everyone who wants to come home has the ability to come home.

Now, all of those things and, I think, lessons learned and misperceptions of

Katrina, I think we have to take those same things and look at Sandy and all other hurricanes.

What I wanted to do before we went home for a break and celebrate the 10th anniversary of Katrina is to let people know that we still have needs; we still have things we have to do to complete the recovery, but also thank Congress for what they did do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO LEBANON—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 114-53)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Lebanon that was declared in Executive Order 13441 of August 1, 2007, is to continue in effect beyond August 1, 2015.

Certain ongoing activities, such as continuing arms transfers to Hizballah that include increasingly sophisticated weapons systems, undermine Lebanese sovereignty, contribute to political and economic instability in the region, and continue to constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 29, 2015.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, July 28, 2015.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On July 23, 2015, pursuant to section 3307 of Title 40, United States Code, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session to consider 15 resolutions included in the General Services Administration's fiscal years 2015 and 2016 Capital Investment and Leasing Programs.

The Committee continues to work to reduce the cost of federal property and leases. Of the 15 resolutions considered by the Committee, the nine alteration projects will address critical life safety repairs or allow for space consolidations, the two reprogramming prospectuses are fully offset by reductions in other projects, the two construction prospectuses include offsets and reductions in spending from avoided lease costs, and the two lease prospectuses will result in significant reductions in lease costs through the reduction of space. In total, these resolutions represent \$327 million in avoided lease costs and offsets.

I have enclosed copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on July 23, 2015.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

Enclosures.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING, NEW YORK, NY

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the design for the build out of approximately 314,000 rentable square feet of vacant space in the Jacob K. Javits Federal Office Building located at 26 Federal Plaza in New York City, New York, of which approximately 30,000 rentable square feet will provide swing space for future alteration and consolidation projects in the building, at a design cost of \$7,660,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.